

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02 ACDA-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

CPR-01 NIC-01 DODE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 CU-02 H-02 /077 W

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1864

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USUN NEW YORK 1530

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 2347

E.O. GDS

TAGS: NATO, PFOR, UR

SUBJ: SOVIET V-3 DAY

REF: STATE 69945; GENEVA 1805; GENEVA 1830

1. SOVIET CHARGE CALLED ON AMBASSADOR AND DISCUSSED WITH HIM AND DCM BACKGROUND OF SOVIET SPONSORED RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF END OF WWII. HE EXPLAINED THAT RUSSIANS HAD INTENDED THIS AS NON-CONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION WHICH THEY EXPECTED WOULD EASILY GAIN UNANIMOUS SUPPORT AND HAD CERTAINLY NOT INTENDED CONFRONTATION. IT WAS ALSO NOT DIRECTED AGAINST ANY INDIVIDUAL COUNTRY AND THEY CONSIDERED CURRENT REGIMES OF ENEMY COUNTRIES AS IN NO WAY CONNECTED WITH WAR-TIME FASCIST REGIMES. THEY WERE ASTOUNDED AT THE NEGATIVE REACTION OF NUMBER OF WESTERN DELEGATES AND HOPED THAT THE AIR COULD BE CLEARED SO THAT THIS RESOLUTION COULD BE ACCEPTED ON A CONSENSUS BASIS.

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2. WE EXPLAINED THAT, ALTHOUGH WE HAD SOME PROBLEMS

WITH THE WORDING OF THE RESOLUTION, IT WAS NOT THE WORDING ITSELF BUT THE FACT THAT THERE WAS A RESOLUTION. WE EXPLAINED OUR CONCERN WITH THE INJECTION OF A POLITICAL ISSUE INTO AN ECONOMIC ORGANIZATION WHOSE RECENT EXISTENCE HAS HAPPILY BEEN FREE OF THE POLITICIZATION THAT HAS BESET SO MANY OTHER ORGANIZATIONS IN GENEVA. WE WANT TO AVOID HAVING ANY PRECEDENT OF POLITICAL DISCUSSIONS IN BODIES WHERE SUCH DISCUSSIONS ARE INAPPROPRIATE. SO FAR AS SUBSTANCE WAS CONCERNED, WE, OF COURSE, SHARED THE SOVIET PLEASURE AT THE SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF THE WAR 30 YEARS AGO. WE NOTED THAT ALL THIS WAS MISSION REACTION AND THAT WE ARE STILL AWAITING GUIDANCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT.

3. SOVIET CHARGE EITHER FAILED TO UNDERSTAND OR PREFERRED TO MISUNDERSTAND OUR POSITION. HE INSISTED THAT THE RESOLUTION PER SE WAS NOT POLITICAL BUT THAT, ON THE CONTRARY IT WAS THE WESTERN REACTION THAT WAS POLITICIZING THE SUBJECT. HE FAILED TO SEE WHAT PROBLEM THE PRESENT REGIMES IN GERMANY OR ITALY MIGHT HAVE WITH SUCH A COMMEMORATION AND REITERATED HIS DESIRE TO SEE A RESOLUTION APPROVED BY CONSENSUS.

4. WE MAY FINALLY HAVE MADE HIM SEE OUR POINT. IN ANY CASE, WE ENCOURAGED HIM TO DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH THE GERMAN AND ITALIAN AMBASSADORS AND PROMISED TO BE IN TOUCH AFTER WE HAVE RECEIVED GUIDANCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT.

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